



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

July 22, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Section 22i: Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant

From the appropriation made under Section 22i of the FY2013 State Aid Act, \$50,000,000 has been appropriated for competitive grants to develop and expand technology readiness and infrastructure to Local Educational Agencies, Public School Academies, and Intermediate School Districts in the State of Michigan.

Seven hundred and thirty-two districts throughout the State of Michigan participated in the first installment of the Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant with over 90 percent of students in the State represented by the funding awarded. The criterion has been updated to allow for a bid process to establish a whole-school technology provider.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for Section 22i: Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant as attached to the State Superintendent's memorandum dated July 22, 2013.

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Criteria for Section 22i:
Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant Program

The State Board of Education (SBE) has adopted as its mission "All students graduate ready for careers, college, and community."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

This grant supports the SBEs mission by awarding funding to districts to promote online testing and learning that will better prepare students for the workforce and post-secondary education.

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

☒ Competitive ☐ Formula ☐ New ☒ Continuation (*check all that apply*)

The FY2013 State Aid Act appropriated \$50 million in funding for competitive grants, of which \$45 million is to promote the development or improvement of a district's technology infrastructure and the shared services consolidation of technology, data, and hardware in preparation for the planned implementation in 2014-15 of online growth assessments. Section 22i also appropriates \$5 million in general funding for a competitive bid process to a single provider of whole-school technology with a focus on economic and demographic diversity.

The Michigan Education Assessment Program also anticipates transitioning to online assessments in the areas of science and social studies in the 2014-15 school year.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in consultation with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, has established competitive grant criteria for awarding grants. All Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), Public School Academies (PSAs), and Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) are eligible.

The legislation limits individual awards to \$2 million per LEA and PSA. ISDs applying on behalf of their constituent districts are limited to awards no greater than \$2 million per constituent district.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved October 9, 2012

☒ Defined in Statute ☐ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder ☒ Proposed by Staff

Defined in Statute:

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a provider shall meet all of the following criteria:

- Agrees to submit evaluation criteria in a form and manner determined by the department.
- Provides at least all of the following:
 - One-to-one mobile devices
 - Laptop or desktop computers for each classroom
 - On- and off-campus filtering
 - Wireless networks and peripherals
 - Wireless audio equipment
 - Operating software
 - Instructional software
 - Repairs and replacements
 - Professional development
 - Ongoing support

Proposed by Staff:

The Technology Infrastructure Readiness Grant Program will fund the following activities:

- Develop and implement collaborative purchasing arrangements for statewide network services and personal learning and assessment devices.
- Establish sustainable, cost-effective collaborations for sharing technology and data-related services to assist schools and districts to become “test ready.”
- Build the capacity of educators at ISDs, LEAs, and PSAs to effectively plan and implement online assessments and “Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace” learning.
- Competitively award a whole-school technology pilot with a focus on economic and demographic diversity.

Added Considerations of the Grant Program:

- Individual LEAs and PSAs must complete the Michigan Technology Readiness Assessment tool (MTRAx) by December 15, 2013, to be eligible to participate.
- To be eligible to participate, individual LEAs, PSAs, and ISDs must agree to complete an updated technology readiness planning process designated by the department by June 30, 2014.
- Added consideration will be given to applicants that propose external partnerships and articulate plans for sustainability beyond grant funding.
- Priority will be given to achieve economic and demographic diversity and to Michigan-based companies as outlined in Section 22i, subsection 3.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

- All individual LEAs, PSAs, and ISDs are eligible.
- Related to the competitively awarded whole-school technology pilot in Subsection 3, for-profit and non-profit organizations that can provide at least all of the educational technology services in subsection are eligible.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$50,000,000

STATUTE

P.A. 60 of 2013, Section 22i from the FY2013 State Aid Act. Specifically, \$45 million from the School Aid Fund and an additional \$5 million from the general fund has been allocated to fund this program.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

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